Images of Grace

I have been a nun for most of my adult life so I have mostly lived with women. Strange as it may seem, women are sometimes ‘narky’ and even difficult. At one stage in my life, I used to visit a community that had some ‘interesting’ members who would give their opinions in a free and forthright manner. A friend of mine was superior of that community and no matter how another person acted she always treated them well. A friendly, courteous, even gently humorous response would be given to words and actions that did not deserve them. I found her inspiring so one day I asked her about her behaviour. She told me that she had decided that no matter how another person acted, she would try to treat them with the respect due to a human being, and she would treat herself in the same way. She was no door mat for bad behaviour. It sometimes took great effort to do this. She had to prepare ‘good’ responses for expected bad behaviour and she had good friends to debrief with. The consequence was that she acted in a particularly graceful manner in difficult situations. She is one of my ‘pin-up nuns’.

We all know people like this- the ones who seem to be able to turn around difficult situations. They are ‘graces’ in our lives and, if it is possible, we should talk with them and ask them how they do it. It is not magic. They are wise people, who know how to access the grace of God that can transform the negative into something positive and life-giving.

Loving God, sometimes people are difficult – not only others but also us, even me. Send us your Spirit that we may gracefully turn our difficult situations and bad moods into something that gives life. We ask this in Jesus’ name, confident that you will hear us.

Dear Parents,

This week is an extremely busy one with numerous activities happening each day. At our Music Assembly last Wednesday we announced our Term 2 Leaders. Congratulations to Nathan McQueen, Olivia Riley, Nic Paul, Courtney Walker, Bailey Reeve and Emily Sedgman. I am very confident that these Grade 6 leaders will do a fantastic job representing our community.

Please keep Mrs Lyne Hardy in your prayers and thoughts. Lyne’s funeral was at St Joseph’s yesterday and according to Fr Graham Howard she was a great supporter of our school community for many years. Lyne was a Board member, bus driver and part of SHCS Parents and Friends. Lyne was responsible for organising and fundraising for the asphalt area out the front of the school, which is still a valuable asset to our school. As a sign of respect the staff and students formed a guard of honour from the Church to the cemetery.

School Oval
Unfortunately last Tuesday evening a four wheel drive was recklessly driven on our school oval. There was quite a bit of damage that will keep the children off the oval for some time. If you hear anything in the community about this please let me know. It is disappointing as we pride ourselves on our great facilities for the students, particularly the grass and space we are blessed with.

School Uniform & Accessories
There will be a note going home this week reminding families about our policies regarding hair, jewellery and other accessories that may be worn to school. These policies will be under review in the next few months.

School Photos
School photos went well today. Hopefully the ‘turn around’ will be quite short and families will receive their order asap.
No 17 - 26th June 2012

School Improvement Night – Thursday 5th July
Last week all families received an invitation to attend a night at school where we are commencing our new School Improvement journey. It is an important night where we will be gathering data that will inform our School Improvement Plan for the next four years. We will also be celebrating the success of our last plan. Another reminder will go home later in the week.

Electronic Devices
I would encourage all parents to ensure that they are familiar with the games that their children have downloaded and are playing on their electronic devices. Students are permitted to have electronic devices when they are travelling on the school buses but it is expected that games are only played that have a G or PG rating. The individual ipads that the Grade 6 students have as part of the trial have settings that only allow G or PG. It is difficult for the school to know what is on other mobile devices (phones, ipods, x-boxes, etc.). Please sit down and discuss this with your children to ensure they are playing age appropriate games.

Sr Julianne’s Visit
The staff and students were very fortunate today to listen to Sr Julianne. Sr Julianne is a Josephite Sister from South Australia that is travelling the country informing schools about the Mary MacKillop Foundation, which is a charitable organisation that supports the sisters work all around the world. Sr Julianne was very impressed with our commitment to assisting others through the Cambodian Children’s Trust and our obvious dedication to our founding Josephite charism.

Huon Valley Parish Sacramental Preparation
Fr Greg is holding a Sacramental Retreat this Thursday at Sacred Heat and next Thursday at St James for children in the Parish that are preparing for the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. If you would like further information about the program, please contact Mrs Sarah Dance or myself.

Twitter
Thank you for those parents that have decided to follow my twitter account. Already it has proven to be a successful way of connecting with families. The Twitter application is free and it only takes a few minutes to set up an account. I am trying to tweet daily about all the great things that are happening at SHCS and to ensure we all stay connected. My Twitter account is @StuKelly71.

P&F and Fair Committee
Our P&F and Fair Committee are working very hard at the moment. Both groups met this morning to continue their planning for a number of major activities and events. A reminder that both meetings are open to all community members.

Friday 29th June
This Friday is an exciting day with all students from Prep – 6 involved in exciting activities. Our Grade 1-4 students are attending a performance by the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra in Hobart, the 5/6 students are participating in a football/netball round robin and the preps have planned a pyjama day at school. Thanks to the parents that have offered to assist and to Mr Lovell for coordinating the busy bus schedule for the day.

Hobart City Mission
I received a letter last week from the Hobart City Mission thanking us for our support for their Winter appeal that Mrs Peattie organised at the end of last term. They were very grateful for our support and the large amount of clothing and bedding that we donated. Thank you to Mrs Peattie for organising this appeal.

Bravehearts Performance – Tuesday 3rd July
Next Wednesday K-3 students from Geeveston and Dover are coming to SHCS to join us for a performance by Bravehearts. Keeping children safe is one of the most important things we do as parents, educators or other caring adults. To do this, we must equip children with the knowledge and skills they need to avoid risky situations and give them an understanding of their rights to protect their own body.

Bravehearts is aiming to achieve this through our education and prevention stream, bringing one of this country’s most innovative and proactive programs to schools across the country.

Teaching children personal safety helps young people learn the skills to identify their vulnerabilities while devising strategies to both protect themselves and get help if unable to cope alone. The performance starts at 1.00pm in the school hall. All parents are invited to a parent information session at the new Geeveston Child/Family Centre at 12.00 on the same day.

Have a great week
Stuart Kelly
Principal
@StuKelly71
Stephen Heppell

Stuart Grey and Debbie Campagna, along with some students attended the Stephen Heppell conference recently held in Hobart. Professor Stephen Heppell is an English educator who specialises in the use of ICT in education.

Some of our Grade four and five students presented the ‘Linking Latitudes Project’ to the attending teachers and educators. Stephen was very interested in what our students were doing at Sacred Heart and the way we use skype technology to communicate and learn from the students on the Tiwi Islands, in Northern Territory.

**Dates for your diaries**

- 29th June - Prep pyjama day
  - Grade 1-4 to Tasmania Symphony Orchestra
  - Grade 5 & 6 Netball/Football Round Robin
- 3rd July - BraveHearts Performance K-3
- 5th July - School Improvement

**Wool and Fabric Donations**

The Grade Three's are going to get creative this term with textiles. We are looking for donations of wool, string, ribbon, fabric, cotton thread, onion and orange net bags and old plain white sheets. If you have any of these items to spare can you please drop them into Grade Three or drop them off at the office.

Thank you
Cate Doherty

**REMINDErs**

- Bookclub closes on 3rd July
- Woolworths Earn and Learn Sheets are to come to the office
World Youth Day 2013 Information Sessions

Catholic Youth Ministry will be leading an exciting, faith-filled, adventure-filled pilgrimage to Rio de Janeiro for World Youth Day in July 2013. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about our faith and Church; to meet other young people from around the state, country and the world; to have a vibrant and life-changing experience of faith; to witness and experience all that South America has to offer from shanty towns to large electric cities, natural beauty, and the beauty of its people and rich heritage. If you are at all interested in joining this pilgrimage, or just interested to find out more, come along to the Information Session on Sunday 1st July, 3.00pm in the foyer of Holy Spirit Church, cnr Sandy Bay Rd & Duke St, Sandy Bay.

Art Classes

Art classes at Southern Design Centre will be starting soon.

After school and Sundays classes available for children aged 8 –17.

Local artist Zoran Lee will provide beginners fundamentals in drawing/cartooning, shading and shadow and all the areas in between.

If your child enjoys putting pencil to paper and making something amazing feel free to give Zoran a call!!

Cost will be $60 for a six weeks.

Bookings being taken at Southern Design Centre
Email: southdesign@bigpond.com or 62 97 0039

Or give Zoran a call 0439204773

Kermandie Junior Football Club Family Pie Night

Kermandie Hotel (Riverview Room)

Friday 29 June 2012
5.30 > 7.30pm
Juke Box!

$2 per child Please take a change of (includes 1 pie & cordial) clothes/shoes to training!

Huon Highway, Geeveston, Tas, 7116, Ph 62971313, Fax 62971990
shg@catholic.tas.edu.au